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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Howard Tucket et al. Art Unit : Unknown  
Serial No. : Examiner : Unknown  
Filed : Herewith  
Title : DI- AND TRIPEPTIDE NITRILE DERIVATIVES AS INHIBITORS OF  
CATHEPSIN L AND CATHEPSIN S

Box PCT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claim 14 without prejudice.

Amend claims 4, 5, 13, and 15-17 as follows:

4. (Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is benzyl (optionally substituted with halo (such as chloro)),  $\alpha$ -(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)-benzyl (optionally substituted with halo (such as chloro)),  $\alpha,\alpha$ -di(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)-benzyl (optionally substituted with halo (such as chloro)), optionally substituted phenoxyethyl, phenylsulphonylmethyl, benzyloxy, naphthyl or optionally substituted phenyl where said optional substituents are chosen from one or more halo.

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August 17 2001

Samantha Bell

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